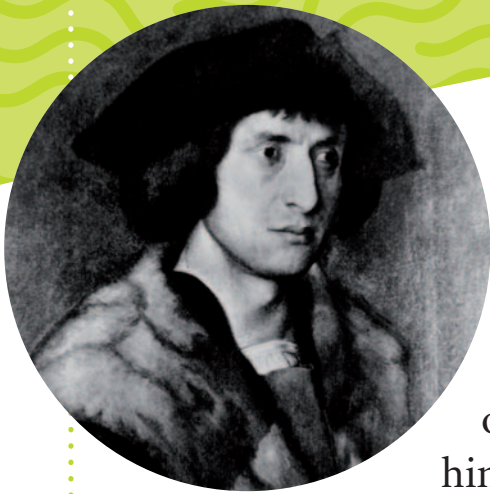


Who FOUND out?



Earth's orbit: Nicolaus Copernicus

Nicolaus Copernicus (1473–1543) was a Polish mathematician and **astronomer**. In 1514 he said that the Earth turned on its **axis** and moved around the Sun in one complete year. People did not believe him, but Galileo and other astronomers later helped to show that his idea was correct.



Supernova: Tycho Brahe

Tycho Brahe (1546–1601) was a Danish astronomer. In 1572 he saw a new star that was as bright as Venus. It was the brightest supernova for 500 years. People were very surprised by his discovery because they thought that stars never changed.

Dr Vera Cooper Rubin

Dr Vera Cooper Rubin (1928–) is an American astronomer. She discovered that galaxies are surrounded by clouds of invisible dark matter. Astronomers still do not know what it is.



Carolyn Shoemaker

Carolyn Shoemaker (1929–) is also an American astronomer. She has discovered more planets than anyone else. She has found more than 800 asteroids and 32 comets and co-discovered Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9. In 1992 this comet travelled too near to Jupiter and broke into 21 pieces.

